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SUNDAY, MAY 8, 1910.

Roosevelt and His Party.

Theodore Roosevelt went away a Republican and will come back a Republican. He has been a Republican, aggressively independent at times, throughout his life, but a Republican who has always made his fights within his party.

His partisanship has been of the stalwart type in every campaign in which he has figured prominently.

The Theodore Roosevelt of the past is the Theodore Roosevelt of to-day, greater and stronger in his leadership, more powerful of influence now than ever before, but still Theodore Roosevelt.

That he will, upon his return, support his party and, therefore, the administration is to-day, as it has been all along, a foregone conclusion. Any other course on his part is altogether inconceivable.

That his attitude toward President Taft will be other than of cordial, sympathetic friendship and good will is likewise inconceivable.

Speculation as to Roosevelt's view of the Ballinger-Pinchot row and his attitude toward those Republican insurgents who, in his absence, have all but broken with the administration—such speculation as is tediously and persistently paraded in the press from day to day—is absolutely idle and baseless. Stories representing him as writing to friends outlining his plans and stating specifically what he proposes to do or not to do are canards, pure and simple, the product of the busy newspaper faker's imagination. He will return with an open mind as to these and kindred questions, including the tariff imbroglio, which have served to create divisions in the party. And when this is said—and said knowingly—it means, of course, that he will return prepared, in spite of all he has heard through interested and mischief-making sources, to give fair-minded consideration to everything that has happened since he left the White House.

Of one thing Theodore Roosevelt's countrymen may be sure: He has no thought of running for President again. Whether he will be able, however, to control the trend of events affecting him politically and personally—that is another question; decidedly another question, which only the future can answer.

Light on the Lighthouse System.

The government authorities who have to do with the lighthouse branch have been subjected to a remorseless grilling by the members of the House Committee on Appropriations, and the disclosure has been of such a character that it is remarkable that Congress has not taken steps heretofore to reform the system of administration. There is an altogether unwieldy body of army and navy officers known as the Lighthouse Board, at the head of which is usually a rear admiral of the navy. This is a comfortable billet, as is any sort of duty connected with the lighthouse establishment. There is, moreover, in each lighthouse district a naval officer who acts as "inspector" and an army officer who acts as "engineer." No one has been able to determine why there should be two officers in each district merely to see that the lighthouses are kept in operation. The work could evidently be done by a civilian, who might easily attend to several districts. Anything of a technical character in the way of construction might very easily be looked after by an army engineer detailed for the entire lighthouse branch. This much-officered establishment has afforded congenial duty for a large number of army and navy officers, and the situation is positively grotesque when it is remembered that in both the War and Navy departments much is made of the fact that the army and navy must be increased because there are not sufficient officers to perform the duties of the regular military-naval establishments. When the army and navy officers on lighthouse duty can be spared from that task, and their services are so greatly needed in their own branches, it is remarkable that they have been kept on lighthouse duty.

In the hearing before the House Appropriations Committee of the president of the Lighthouse Board, that officer was led to admit the absurdity of the prevailing system. Being a naval officer, however, he was inclined to think that the army officers on duty as engineers in the lighthouse districts could be spared and sent back to their own service, keeping the naval officers on duty as district inspectors. Rear Admiral Adolph Marix, who is president of the Lighthouse Board, describes the administration of that branch as "cumbersome and ridiculous," with no one in supreme control at the head of the establishment, and with two useless district officers in each district. This quotation from the hearing is interesting:

Mr. Sherley—Why have you not before called attention to that? We have had naval officers there for some time, have we not, and those positions are looked upon as rather favorable berths to the officers who have shore duty coming to them?

Admiral Marix—Yes. The change was first projected under the administration of Mr. Straus in his annual report two years ago. Now, again, it is taken up by Secretary Nagel, and he has now got to the actual regulations reorganizing it, and we are waiting for the action of the Senate, whether to go ahead or not.

Mr. Sherley—But you did not need any legislation to prevent the excess expenditure of money, did you?

Admiral Marix—I cannot say that we are in any way responsible for this dual system. The President condemned it, and the Secretary condemned it.

Mr. Sherley—You could have stopped it, could you not?

Admiral Marix—I tried to stop it with Mr. Straus' annual report two months after I got in there.

Mr. Sherley—There was nothing in the law that prevented you from changing this expensive system? There was nothing in the law that interfered with your changing it, was there?

Admiral Marix—It lay entirely with the Secretary.

Mr. Sherley—So that if it has been extravagant it has been the fault of the authorities?

Admiral Marix—I would not say "extravagant," but it has been a cumbersome and expensive system.

Mr. Sherley—I think "extravagant" is inadequate myself.

Admiral Marix—It is a system that we have inherited from Congressional action.

Mr. Sherley—Let us see about that——

Admiral Marix—Oh, yes, sir. The laws of Congress gave two district officers continually.

Mr. Sherley—But you did not have to employ these officers if the work did not require it, did you?

Admiral Marix—These district officers are designated by laws of Congress, and have been for sixty years.

Mr. Sherley—Do you mean to say you have to continue this dual work of inspectors' tenders and engineers' tenders when, in your judgment, it was expensive and unwarranted?

Admiral Marix—The inspectors and engineers now say that their tenders are fully employed, but I myself am of opinion that we can economize by having only one district officer.

Mr. Sherley—Of course, every fellow that is up always thinks he has business, but you yourself say that the service has been unduly expensive.

This is an interesting state of affairs, which has prevailed at great expense to the government and without any adequate return for the outlay. The separation of army and navy officers from their regular duties in order to give them congenial billets is, indeed, as Rear Admiral Marix says, a "cumbersome and ridiculous" situation. With this knowledge of the state of affairs, it ought not to be difficult to apply the remedy.

Edward and the Rest of Us.

The last words of King Edward VII were:

"Well, it is all over. I think I have done my duty."

Rich man, poor man, beggar man, prince or pauper, after all is said and done, that is the supremest earthly satisfaction man may promise himself in the end.

Stripped of all his worldly glory, with visions in his mind of the days beyond recall and the great hereafter, his most august majesty, face to face with death at last, could have summoned to his support for the last step no sweeter thought. If he died conscious of having done his simple duty, he died a magnificent death—but no more so than the humblest subject in all his vast empire might die tomorrow if similarly qualified.

It is a grand thing to be a king, as the world in the rich views that sort of thing. The pomp and circumstance of state, the glitter and glare of impressive publicity, the ease and luxury of it all in some of its aspects, and the tremendous responsibilities in others—these things make kings conspicuous figures and project them into the limelight of stupendous affairs continuously. And yet kings can do no more than their duty as they find it. The poorest commoner in all the realm may do as much, be it ever so little.

The sum total of all worthy kingcraft, statecraft, citizenship, and individual endeavor is the same. The one requirement is impartially applied. Do right—your duty! All persons—kings and commons—emerge from the Valley of the Shadow into the Great Beyond on equal footing. Crowns are left behind no less surely than rags.

The world may set up its distinctions and its differences between men, but death levels them all. Edward, the royal pilgrim, enjoyed no advantage in the final status.

Whatever the road individuals travel, all of them lead the same way and finish at the same spot—the ultimate resting place. To arrive there conscious of having done your duty—it must be the climax of your hopes. There is not one thing more that the Master asks of you!

"Bacteriologically, kissing is harmless," observes the Nashville Tennessean. Any number of young people who do not know the meaning of "bacteriologically" will take a chance occasionally, anyway.

Mr. Taft's railroad bill looks as if it surely must have run into an open switch or something worse.

In his recent peace address, Mr. Roosevelt observed, "I speak as a practical man." It is only on very rare occasions that the colonel refers to that, however.

One man has produced a blue rose; another a black rose; another an edible rose. Nobody will claim, however, that any one of these is an improvement over the old-fashioned kind.

"In ancient times the comet was a terrorizing agent," says a contemporary. Well, some fearful and wonderful jokes are made at its expense nowadays.

A Michigan criminal pleads that his sweetheart's lack of love for him drove him to theft. The trouble with that sort of plea is that it is neither legal nor convincing.

"The income tax amendment is as good as dead," observes the Wilkesbarre News. Also as bad as dead.

We do not believe the colonel approves of Hamlet's "To be or not to be" business, however. The colonel cannot understand how anybody might hesitate between being and not being.

King Edward's effectiveness as a constitutional monarch may be summed up, it is generally agreed, in the one little word "tact." The King seemed to be able to bring about results without hurting anybody's feelings. He is justly entitled to be known to history as a great man.

Poor "Mat!" The Royal Geographic Society of England also overlooked him completely in distributing its polar honors.

"It was just like man in dramatizing the barnyard to give the prominent place to the roosters instead of to the hen that lays the breakfast," observes the Dayton News. Still, in the drama the rooster is properly humiliated before the end, is he not?

The Pullman Company calls attention to the fact that "it has not raised its rates in twenty years." Is that a threat?

"The price of doughnuts has gone up," says the Syracuse Herald. A little doughnut still goes a long way, however.

Mr. Percival Phillips, in the New York American's London cable, says: "George V is an unknown quantity." Then Mr. Phillips uses up four columns of space telling all about what a kingly sort of person he is. Editorially, the American says: "His—the new King's—personal unfitness is a matter of common knowledge." All of which may be just so. However, do not believe all that you hear.

Gov. Brown, of Georgia, thinks "grand opera would be much more generally enjoyed if it were rendered in English." A lot of very fashionable people think the same way about it, only they would not admit it for the world.

"A Chicago novelist has been sent to an asylum. So, after all, her books were symptoms," says the Philadelphia Public Ledger. Likely as not, however, the asylum incident will prove a first-rate ad for the novel.

In English royal history the name of George is not one to which much glory attaches. Perhaps—and may he—the new King will reverse the ancient record.

"More than half the merchandise imported into the United States under the new tariff law enters free of duty," says the Seymour (Conn.) Record. Which is a standpatter's way of saying, of course, "Cheer up! The worst is yet to come!"

A Chicago woman dislocated her jaw while scolding her husband the other day. We are just contrary enough to suspect that not one man in a dozen who reads this will think to call his wife's attention to it.

Congress has ordered the Maine raised "with all convenient speed." Applying Congress' own idea of speed to this matter, that would mean any time within the next twelve years.

"Private" John Allen says he loses every time he plays poker. Perhaps that is one reason why "Private" John is so universally popular at p—r p—s.

"The daughter of the late E. H. Harriman is going to marry an American," notes the Rochester Union and Advertiser. Good! That would have pleased her intensely American father thoroughly.

By the time Halley's comet gets around again, people may not sleep at all.

"If 'Uncle Joe' loses out, he might go in for the Chautauqua game," suggests a contemporary. He might; but it is dollars to doughnuts that he will not.

Mr. Longworth is quoted as having expressed the idea that he would "rather be a Congressman than governor of Ohio." The general impression is that Mr. Longworth is not going to be governor of Ohio, all right.

Some women down South have proposed to their pastor to remove their hats in church if he will cut his sermons in half. And yet man, foolish man, now and then imagines that woman is not his true and tried friend!

CHAT OF THE FORUM.

Pittsburg's Pirates.

From the Kansas City Star.

Perhaps Pittsburg named its baseball team "The Pirates" in honor of its city council.

Hallowed Ground.

From the Atlanta Constitution.

Pilgrims will soon be on the way to Napoleon's tomb to view the spot where Roosevelt was silent for three minutes by the town clock.

Human Nature.

From the Atlanta Constitution.

The Boston Globe says Secretary Knox "is human after all." To be sure. He threatened to resign, but did not.

Discouraging for Republicans.

From the Boston Transcript.

More reason for Republican discouragement. Bryan announces that he will never again be candidate for the Presidency.

The Test of Stamina.

From the Columbus Dispatch.

It is easy enough for the kings to invite Col. Roosevelt to an automobile ride. But let them ask him out for a stroll.

Up to Mr. Taft.

From the Baltimore News.

The newest barn dance is called Chanteclairette. It is said to be rather strenuous for middle-aged people, but President Taft will probably give it a trial, if not a vogue.

Gov. Marshall, of Indiana.

From the Savannah News.

This man Marshall, who is governor of Indiana, will bear watching. He is a Democrat. He had the courage to oppose the Taggart machine and bring about its wrecking. Marshall didn't profit anything directly by what he had done, but indirectly he profited to the extent that he will be remembered as a clean and strong man who is worth being placed higher.

All She Has to Spend.

From the Boston Transcript.

Old Friend—Your wife seems to go shopping a great deal. Is she extravagant?"

Husband—Yes, if time is money.

The Shell.

And then I pressed the shell
Close to my ear
And listened well,
And straightway like a bell
Came low and clear
The slow, sad murmur of far distant seas,
Whipped by an icy breeze
Upon a shore
Wind-swept and desolate.
It was a sunless strand that never bore
The footprint of man,
Nor felt the weight
Since time began
Of any human quality or stir
Save what the dreary winds and waves incur.
And in the hush of waters was the sound
Of pebbles rolling round,
Forever rolling with a hollow sound
And bubbling sea weeds as the waters go
Swish to and fro
Their long, cold tentacles of slimy gray.
There was no day,
Nor ever came a night
Setting the stars alight
To wonder at the moon:
Was twilight only and the frightened croon,
Smitten to whimpers, of the dreary wind
And waves that journeyed blind—
And then I loosed my ear—O it was sweet
To hear a cart go jolting down the street.

—James Stephens, in Insurrections.

A LITTLE NONSENSE.

JUST A BLUFF.

He talked of coupons, did the youth,
Impressed her dad,
Who thought that paying bonds, forsooth
The youngster had.

His talk of coupons sounded fine,
You understand,
And put the youngster right in line
For daughter's hand.

A man who plays this sort of game,
Attention gets.
His coupons were the kind that came
With cigarettes.

Startling Novelties.

"Shakespeare without scenery seems to go very well."

"What of it?"

"I'm thinking of producing a musical comedy without a naval lieutenant."

The Prospects.

"What kin I say to attract the summer boarders?"

"Have you mentioned the good water, the fine milk, and the fresh eggs?"

"Yep."

"Well, you might add that pure farm dialect is talked."

Home of Literature.

Spain is a realm of story and song,
Of old romance, I wis.
But the latest sellers bob along
From Indianapolis.

Superfluous.

"Why has Mendelssohn's 'Spring Song' no words?"

"I guess he figured that words wouldn't be needed. Everybody is all stuffed up with influenza in the spring, and can't articulate."

Often the Case.

"Well, how's married life?"

"Oh, so so. My wife makes me beg harder for a dollar than I used to plead for a kiss."

A Familiar Wager.

"He offered to bet me a dollar to a doughnut."

"I'd like to see that bet actually made once."

"Why?"

"I want to see if they would put the stakes in the refrigerator or in the safe."

HOLLAND AND ITS TULIPS.

An Industry Which Has Survived a Great Financial Crisis.

From the Philadelphia Public Ledger.

In going from Amsterdam to Copenhagen, Mr. Roosevelt goes from the scene of a great swindle of the seventeenth century to the scene of an equally notorious swindle in the twentieth century. Conrad Gessner had successfully transplanted the tulip from Constantinople to Germany in 1559. In the forepart of the seventeenth century, originating in the Netherlands, the "tulip mania" impoverished the investors all over Europe. As high as 13,000 florins—$5,200—was paid for one bulb of the species known as Semper Augustus. Ownership, even in a single bulb, was frequently divided into shares; there was the wildest speculation on bulbs not yet in existence by men who possessed not so much as a square foot of land for a garden. Large quantities of bulbs were sold on paper, far in excess of the number actually produced. When the crash finally came thousands of the speculators lost all they had. It was a long time before tulip culture in Holland recovered from the effects of the financial disaster that overtook the victims of the tulip mania. But when the sturdy common sense of the people returned they set to work in sober earnest to rationalize the cultivation of the flower, with the result that to-day there are 1,800 recognized varieties grown in the Netherlands, and 8,200,000 pounds of bulbs are shipped every year to the United States. Between The Hague and Haarlem in the season thousands of acres are given over to the cultivation of these beautiful flowers, whose languorous incense monopolizes the air as their gorgeous coloring transforms the earth into an Oriental carpet.

Kern's Great Record.

From the Milwaukee Sentinel.

The Democrats of Indiana are justly proud of the record of John W. Kern, and they are going to give him an opportunity to embellish it.

It is Mr. Kern's peculiar distinction to have carried the colors of his party to defeat in more elections than any man in the candidate business. Time and again has glorious defeat perched on the Kern banner in State elections, and we believe the Kern escutcheon is as yet unsullied by a single victory.

As Mr. Bryan's running mate he carried his remarkable talent into the national field, and his neat reputation as a hoodoo contributed materially to the result in the pivotal State of Indiana. In the coming Senatorial election he will in all probability add a defeat by Mr. Beveridge to his record. Mr. Kern is an estimable gentleman, and he has our best wishes for his kind of success.

Do They Cook in Heaven?

From the Nevada Sun.

But once within one realized fairyland. The apartment was warm and violet-scented. And the hostess, the six domestic science graduates, clad all in white, with the roses of health in their cheeks and the light of pleasurable excitement in their eyes, stood in line to receive. The table looked like a great jewel touched with amethystine color. On the spotless satin damask of the spread sparkled a wealth of cut glass with gleams of polished silver. The piece de resistance was "1910" done in smilax and banked violets. The figure one was shown in the violets and the nine and cipher in smilax. Cut glass candelabra filled with wax candles flooded the apartment with soft light. At their end of the table were bow pots of fresh Parma violets and sending forth the most delicate odor conceivable. Truly a scene to delight the eye and stimulate the appetite. There were covers for twenty. The delicious repast was served by Misses Beatrice Sharp and Lee Turk, clad in immaculate white, wearing corsage bouquets of violets. Fortunate, indeed, will be the squire who can succeed in capturing one of these 1910 domestic science graduates, for if the spread of Saturday evening is a sample of their culinary skill, they were foreordained to cook for the angels.

Worse and Worse.

From the Boston Transcript.

Teacher—Now, Willie, give me a sentence using the word 'dozen.'"

Willie—Bobby dozen like school.

Teacher—Dear me, no! Bobby, correct him.

Bobby—I dozen Willie don't.

A Bitter Tongue.

From the Cleveland Leader.

He—This article says, my dear, that men's heads grow until they are sixty-five. I wonder what effect that has?"

She—Merely increases the vacuum, I suppose.

PEOPLE AND THINGS.

All Steel Cars.

The Harriman lines have just awarded a contract for 424 all-steel cars for delivery this year. This will bring the total number of passenger cars of this type in operation on the Harriman lines up to 925. Since the all-steel car came into use on the railroads, there have been no unusually bad wrecks in which they have figured. For that reason it is not definitely known to what extent they can be depended on to protect passengers. It has been determined, however, that the danger from fire, which, in the past, has been the worst feature of most railroad wrecks, has been practically eliminated. It will also require a much heavier impact to crush a steel car than is necessary to make kindling wood of the ordinary car. As a safeguard for the traveling public the all-steel car is, no doubt, one of the best inventions in modern railroading.

Fish Dangerous.

Fish is a dangerous food when kept in cold storage, or otherwise, for too long a period. Frequently, when the process of the thawing out of cold storage fish begins the fish becomes absolutely poisonous and unfit to eat. It is said that in Germany most of the hotels and the higher class restaurants have tanks which are stocked with live fish ready to be drawn on at any minute by the guests. A guest may make his selection as the fish swim about in the tank, and, if he so desires, he may watch the process of catching, cleaning, and cooking. Of course, knowing that one is to be served of the very best and freshest fish curtails one's desire to observe any such operation as is gone through in German restaurants; but if such a plan were to be inaugurated in this country it is pretty safe to state that the hotel fish ponds, or tanks, would always be surrounded by a group of inquisitive and interested guests, at least, until the novelty of the thing had worn off.

Women Roll Dice.

Three prominent society women of Lansing, Mich., using a local banker as their arbitrator, settled by a turn of the dice the ownership of three valuable rings which were willed to them by Mrs. L. S Hudson, a wealthy woman of the same place, who recently died. The three solitaires left by Mrs. Hudson had a combined value of about $500. They were placed in the hands of J. J. Baird, vice president of the Capital National Bank until some amicable method of distributing them had been reached, as each of the three ladies was unable to satisfy herself, and at the same time her two fellow-beneficiaries. As the diamonds sparkled brilliantly on the desk of the banker they furnished him an inspiration. He suggested that the ladies shake dice. Mrs. Buck, one of the trio, at first demurred, but finally agreed, and the battle was on. Mrs. Cushman was the first to rattle the bones. Her nervous hand grasped the box, shook it, and spilled a pair of sixes upon the banker's desk. Mrs. Buck followed with four threes, and Mrs. Dowie came across with three aces. What we would like to know, however, is how the dice came to be in the possession of Banker Baird. Can any one answer?

Ironclad War Ships.

The idea of the ironclad war ship is at least as old as the reign of Napoleon. It was suggested to that monarch; patented in this country during the war of 1812; suggested again at a later date to the French government; but in each case failed to receive just recognition. At the beginning of the Mexican war successful experiments were made with it under the auspices of the United States government, but again the matter was, strangely enough, allowed to drop. Shortly afterward, however, the French government took up the idea with a purpose, and French ironclads in the Crimean war did good service against the Russian forts. But the battle between the Monitor and Merrimac in Hampton Roads was the first encounter between real ironclad ships.

Willie Knew Better.

From Puck.

School Trustee—Remember, children, Michelangelo often worked for months on a single curve.

Willie—Watcher givinus? Never heard of the bush leaguer!

Her Explanation.

From Harper's Bazar.

Howard—Bridget, did my wife come in a few minutes ago.

Bridget—No, sir. That's the parrot you heard a-hollerin'.

OLDEST PUBLIC SCHOOL.

Germantown Academy America's First Educational Institution.

From the Philadelphia North American.

Founded in 1760, when Germantown was as yet a village, the Germantown Academy, which has been celebrating its sesqui centennial, has a most interesting history. Undenominational in character, the oldest public school in America and held traditionally dear by the many who owe to it their early educational training, the school stands as a monument to the progressiveness, wisdom, and determination of those early settlers in whom it had its inception.

On April 21, 1760, the corner stone was laid and in the autumn of that year the school was opened with Hilarius Becker as German master, and David James Dove, English master. The first year's enrollment was sixty English and seventy German pupils, of all denominations, but a large proportion Friends. The debt of $5,625 incurred in the building of the institution was paid off in March of the following spring, by means of a lottery.

Washington was an ardent patron of the institution, visited it often to accompany home his adopted son, George Washington Custis. In 1798, when the Bank of the United States was robbed, a great deal of specie was deposited in vaults under the building. In 1824 Gen. Lafayette was tendered a grand reception in the academy.

The school buildings were used as a hospital for the wounded after the historic battle of Germantown, and several British soldiers are buried in the school yards. During an epidemic of yellow fever, and when Gen. George Washington was at the home of the Rev. Frederick Herman, the German instructor, he met his cabinet in the academy and prepared to use the school as a temporary meeting place for Congress. These plans did not go into effect, as the fever abated.

VICTORY FOR CLEAN METHODS.

St. Paul Again Displays Example of Independent Voting.

From the Baltimore Sun.

The election of a Republican mayor in St. Paul, Minn., yesterday, is one of the most significant political happenings of recent times. St. Paul is normally Democratic. It has not had a Republican mayor in fourteen years. The Democratic boss, Richard T. O'Connor, is recognized as the strongest machine politician of the Northwest. He has ruled St. Paul as I. Freeman Rasin used to rule Baltimore, and his overthrow seemed as impossible as Rasin's did prior to 1895.

Yet he has been overthrown, and in the same way that Rasin was beaten here. An independent press that told the truth and feared not did the work. About a year ago the St. Paul Dispatch took upon itself the unpleasant duty of publishing the facts about conditions in the St. Paul city hall. It was promptly denounced as a vilifier of the fair name of the city. It kept on telling the truth. It showed the inefficiency and corruption of the city government. All the pressure that a strongly intrenched political machine can bring to bear was put upon it. It came back with facts and figures.

The result was shown yesterday in the defeat of O'Connor's candidate and the election of a Republican mayor. It was all the more remarkable in view of the anti-Republican sentiment now prevailing throughout the country. It was an impressive example of independent voting in the State that gave Theodore Roosevelt for President and John Johnson for governor enormous majorities at the same election. And it was a still more impressive example of the responsiveness of the American people to enlightened and sincere leadership when convinced of its sincerity and knowledge.

Shameful.

From May Lippincott's.

Extract from a young lady's letter from Venice:

"Last night I lay in a gondola in the Grand Canal, drinking it all in, and life never seemed so full before."

Why She Objected.

From the St. Louis Star.

"I don't like the way my new dress is cut."

"Did your modiste make a mistake?"

"No. The baby has been practicing on it with the shears."

Her Library.

From Harper's Bazar.

"Mrs. Barker writes down in a book the name of every cook she employs."

"Yes."

"And she is now in her fifth volume."

TO-DAY IN HISTORY.

Treaty of the Alabama Claims—May 8.

One of the conspicuous legacies of the civil war was that known as the Alabama claims, that is, claims against the British government for damages because that country permitted the Confederate government to build vessels in her shipyards for the purpose of preying on American merchant vessels, which the North claimed was against international law, at least international courtesy.

The Alabama was built in the great English shipyard of Laird & Sons, on the Mersey River. There was a law passed by Parliament long before forbidding any vessel to be built or equipped in British waters for use against a friendly nation. The American Minister in London, Charles Francis Adams, called the attention of the authorities to the law; but all action was deferred until it was too late. The "290," as the vessel was known, had been finished and had escaped.

It was in August, 1862, that the Alabama began its wonderful tour of the world, the most remarkable of its kind in history. It was not a pirate ship, nor was its purpose to acquire riches. Its object was to weaken the North by destroying Northern shipping, and it captured sixty-nine vessels, including merchantmen and whalers.

The vessels captured by the Alabama were often burned and the passengers and crews carried to some port and set free. It was in June, 1864, that the Alabama reached Cherbourg, and here it met the Kearsarge, a United States cruiser of about the same size. It was a death duel, in neutral waters, and the Kearsarge sunk the Alabama, thus ending the strange career of this famous vessel.

When the war was over the British government was politely informed that she would be expected to pay damages for the destruction of American shipping, but the English ignored the request. In President Grant's annual message in 1870 he made reference to the subject which awakened the British public to the realization that there was something quite serious between the two countries. The English Minister at Washington proposed a joint high commission, to sit in that city and arrange to adjust the relations between the two countries. The commission met and produced the treaty of Washington, which was ratified by the Senate on May 8, 1871. It provided for settling several points of dispute, and the most important of these was the Alabama claims. It was provided that this be settled by a tribunal or jury of five men to meet at Geneva, Switzerland. Only one of the five was to be an American and one an Englishman. The tribunal met, the case was argued, and the American claims won, and it was decided that the British government pay the United States the sum of $15,500,000 in gold in settlement of the Alabama claims, and the money was paid to the last dollar.

At the Geneva court of arbitration the government of the United States was represented by Charles Francis Adams, the British government by Sir Alexander Cockburn, lord chief justice of England; Italy named Count Sclopis, Brazil the Viscount d'Itajuba, and Switzerland Jacques Steampfli. These men all were of great eminence. They began their sittings on December 15, 1871, and did not finish until the following September.

On May 8, 1846, occurred the battle of Palo Alto in the Mexican war, and the battle of Spottsylvania Court House, Va., in the civil war (1864). It is the date on which the northern coast of Greenland was discovered by Lieut. Peary in 1900. It is the birthday of Alain Rene Le Sage, author of "Gil Blas" (1668); James Hamilton, the Southern statesman (1786); William H. Vanderbilt, financier (1821); William Walker, the filibuster (1824); Louis M. Gottschalk, composer (1829), and Augusta M. Evans, the author (1835).

AT THE HOTELS.

"King George, though he inherits many of the qualities which made King Edward, his father, the most universally popular monarch that ever wore the English crown," said Reginald S. Seymour, of London, England, who was seen at the New Willard yesterday, "is admittedly of a reserved and rather retiring disposition, and the circle of people who are permitted to enjoy his intimacy is a small one.

"Sir Arthur Bigge, the prince's private secretary," continued the English civil engineer, "is rather a taciturn individual, and a story is told that on one occasion, when the prince was sitting next to him at a state banquet at Buckingham Palace, given by Queen Victoria, his royal highness remarked to him humorously: 'I like sitting next to you, Sir Arthur, for, like myself, you prefer thinking to talking.'

"Two great friends of the prince are Lord Crichton and the Hon. Derek Keppel. Mr. Keppel, like the King, takes a keen interest in football, and when the latter attends a match is usually the equerry in attendance on his royal highness. Lord Crichton is the best shot in the household, and nearly as certain a marksman as the King, which is saying a good deal.

"The King is of a retiring nature, but I have the idea that he will surprise the world. I am inclined to believe that he will do but little talking, but will take charge of things so far as the constitution will permit him to do this, and be a leader in the government of England, instead of a figurehead. The King starts out with a number of serious problems on his hands. The parliamentary dispute and the Irish question will occupy his attention at once and will require his whole wisdom and tact to bring to a satisfactory conclusion. The question of supremacy of England on the sea will also be brought before the new monarch, and it is my conviction that under his majesty's direction Great Britain's foreign policy will again resume leadership among the nations."

Dr. William Brunner, of Chicago, Ill., a well-known pedagogue of that Western metropolis, is at the Arlington, and, speaking about The Hague Court of Peace, said that the only officers of the court are the secretary-general of the tribunal, corresponding somewhat to our clerk of the court, and an assistant.

"The president, when the court enters, makes, in French, the simple announcement, 'Gentlemen, the court is open,' and the business proceeds. The members of the court appear in ordinary conventional dress. French is the language usually employed in the proceedings of the court, unless a different one is stipulated by the parties to the case.

"No case can be brought before the court at the instance of one government of its own motion against another. Both parties must agree to submit the case. Arbitrators are chosen according to a preliminary agreement between the parties, generally called a protocol. The protocol defines, among other things, the subject of the controversy and the extent of the powers of the arbitrators. Where there are three or more arbitrators they choose one of their number to act as president or umpire. A sovereign or the head of a State may act as sole arbitrator. Each side submits its case, or brief, with copies of all documents relied upon to prove its contentions. After a reasonable time counter cases are filed by each side. Oral argument then follows.

"The next step to acquire universal peace is the establishment of an international parliament at The Hague, at which all disputes between nations can be settled without bloodshed, and Col. Roosevelt would be the proper man to preside over a body of this kind."

Discussing children's diseases, Dr. Ferd M. Kanter, of New York, who is at the Shoreham, said that adenoids could be removed from children's throats with practically no danger.

"Adenoids are a peculiar gland structure and are particularly susceptible to inflammatory actions, and the slightest inflammatory change in this structure will produce in children, and adults even, a marked rise in temperature, seemingly entirely out of proportion to the amount of trouble. Children with this adenoid trouble are more susceptible to colds and diseases of childhood than those who do not have it.

"Children so afflicted with this gland fare far worse when taken with diphtheria and scarlet fever than those that are free from it. When the gland is large it prevents breathing through the nose, and the child is seen habitually with its mouth open, and the stupid, long drawn-out expression so often seen is due to this gland. This can be corrected by removal of this gland when the child is young, an operation which, when properly performed, is comparatively free from danger.

"A great many people even to-day are horrified when an operation is suggested of cutting the tonsils and ask if it will not injure the voice. As a matter of fact, it will improve the voice. Again, in regard to earache and discharging ears in children it is often heard: 'Oh, it is one of the children's diseases, and they will outgrow it.' A great majority of these ear cases are caused by this gland, the adenoid, or third tonsil, and if it is removed, the ears will improve immediately.

"When one cannot breathe through the nose, as it was intended he should, the air is not filtered from dust and dirt, neither is it properly warmed nor moistened as it should be before entering the lungs, consequently one is more susceptible to colds, consumption, and catarrhal diseases."

Crane Beats Mule!

From the New York Sun.

A big brown Kentucky mule delayed the sailing of the Royal Mail liner Atrato yesterday by refusing to go aboard like eleven of its kind that made no objection to being hoisted in a big box from the pier into the hold of the ship. The brown mule kicked the box to pieces before hoisting winch got to work. Then a dozen longshoremen tackled the mule, keeping out of the way of its heels, and made a vain effort to shove and pull it up a freight gangplank. A cattle gangway was brought from another pier and a decoy mule was led up to it, in the hope that the brown jenny would follow. It wouldn't.

Then it was blindfolded and ropes were put around it amidships, forward and aft. The hydraulic crane was started and the mule braced itself. It found that hydraulic cranes are several times stronger than the strongest Kentucky mules. It went up in the air like a shot, kicking wildly, and was lowered in to the hold with the other mules. The passengers who had viewed the struggles of the mule with interest and laughter cheered and the Atrato cast off her lines and backed out into the Hudson. The mule had been one hour making its protest.